

WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, DC

ORDER NO. 3259

IN THE MATTER OF:

Served December 2, 1988

Application of JOSEPH C. SMITH )  
Trading as SMITH'S CHARTER BUS )  
SERVICE for Temporary Authority -- )  
Charter Operations )

Case No. AP-88-49

By application filed November 4, 1988, and amended November 15, 1988, Joseph C. Smith, a sole proprietor trading as Smith's Charter Bus Service (Smith's or applicant), seeks temporary authority to transport passengers in charter operations between the Washington Hospital Center's parking garage located at 104 Irving Street, N.W., on the one hand, and, on the other, the Main Hospital Building, 110 Irving Street, N.W.; the Physician's Building, 106 Irving Street, N.W.; and the East Building, 100 Irving Street, N.W., all points located in Washington, DC.

Applicant would provide a shuttle service Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. with service at all other times being conducted between the hours of 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. The schedule would be subject to change after a monitoring period. Two 22-passenger vehicles and one 12-passenger vehicle would be used in the proposed operations. Passengers would not be charged for use of the shuttle. Applicant would receive compensation pursuant to its contract with the Hospital Center.

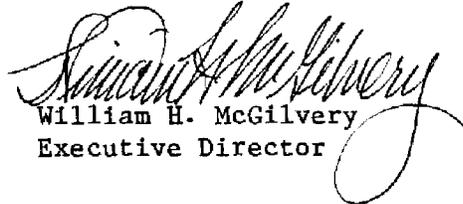
Smith's balance sheet for June 30, 1988, shows current assets of \$330,000, and fixed assets after allowance for depreciation of \$170,398. Current liabilities of \$40,000, long-term liabilities of \$120,000, and proprietor's equity of \$485,398 are also listed. Applicant expects to generate \$72,072 from the proposed operations with total operating expenses of \$48,005. Applicant is an experienced carrier who presently performs shuttle transportation services pursuant to WMATC Special Authorization No. 134.

In a notarized letter of support dated November 7, 1988, Mr. D. Mark Cooper, Assistant Administrator of Hospital and Employee Services, attested to the urgent need for the proposed shuttle service. Mr. Cooper stated that due to the location of the hospital's parking facility, patients and guests are faced with a "significant walk" in inclement weather. Mr. Cooper further stated that with snow and ice soon approaching, the service is needed as soon as possible in an effort to provide eased access to the hospital for the sick and elderly. The proposed shuttle service is viewed as a priority by the hospital.

The standards for temporary authority are set forth in the Compact, Title II, Article XII, Section 4(d)(3). The essential elements are (1) an immediate and urgent need for service, (2) no carrier capable of meeting such need, and (3) fitness of the applicant. This order will provide notice of this application, and a brief time will be provided for the filing of protests, if any. No extension of time will be granted.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that any person desiring to protest this application shall file a protest in accordance with Commission Rule No. 14 at the office of the Commission, 1625 Eye Street, N.W., Suite 316, Washington, DC 20006, no later than Monday, December 12, 1988, and shall simultaneously serve a copy of such protest on applicant's attorney, Linda Sroufe, Esquire, 6188 Oxon Hill Road, Suite 700, Oxon Hill, MD 20745.

FOR THE COMMISSION:

  
William H. McGilvery  
Executive Director